

DIB DIB DIB

40



40p

No cowboy zine is DIB of course,
but just as essential as a cowpoke's
horse,
He won't ride across deserts horseless
will he?
And like Dibless men, will lool
damn silly!

This is Dib Dib Dib 40 - a merry little games zine catering for those with taste, who like chat, wit, or whatever with their games, and don't mind roughing it with the likes of yours truly who's getting to hate doing these colophons. Cost of this issue is 40p in the UK, 50p to Europe, and must be getting on for £1, though I'm not sure, to America. And comes to you from Tom Tweedy, of 29 Stanley Hill Avenue, Amersham, Bucks., HP7 9BD. Tel. 02403 4513.

EDITORIAL

[CONGRATULATIONS to John & Pat Piggott for adding once again to the world's population explosion. On May 26th; 2.10 am, weighing in at 8lb 13oz (that's heavy, John!) is one Matthew James Piggott. Right, where's all our cigars, John?]

First, I'd like to apologise for the harshness of the stock "lack of credit" reminder some of you got last time. Please remember, it is only a reminder, and not a personal insult. If you can think of a better way of wording the reminder by all means write and let me know. It's always hard to be diplomatic when asking for money. Well, that's that out of the way...

Now for another important but unsavoury subject. I'm afraid the cost of Dib will have to go up to 40p an issue in the UK, and 50p to Europe. The reason for the price rise is worked out below. It's the first time I've done it but I found out over a longish period I've been steadily making a loss. It's not that much of a loss, and most certainly I can, and do, subsidise my hobby to a certain extent. However, with the threat of rising postal charges, and the rising cost of stationary, I feel it would be a good idea to bring the price up on par with other zines in this hobby. I've kept the price down for as long as possible, but not many zines can afford to sell at 35p any more. This is what I use per issue:-

STATIONARY		STAMPS + STATIONARY	
1 tube ink	£ 7.96	24 @ 12½p	£ 3.00
26 stencils	£ 3.70	90 @ 16p	£14.40
120 Envelopes	£ 2.40		-----
3½ reams paper	£13.49		£17.40
1 Contact sheet	£ 20p	+ STATIONARY	£31.95
	-----		-----
	£27.75	TO PRODUCE 115 ZINES	£49.35
	-----	90 SUBSCRIBERS @ 35p	£31.50 -
15% VAT	£ 4.20		-----
	-----	OUT OF POCKET	£17.85
TOTAL	£31.95		

Since I worked this out my subscribers and trades have gone up another 8 or 9, not that it changes things much. Even at 40p an issue I'll be subsidising my hobby to the tune of approx £10 a month. Which makes things a little more respectable I suppose. Pay up now, pay up, it's all in a good cause; keeping Tweedy, and therefore Dib, solvent.

Last month wasn't a good time for me. I/we had to get the latest addition of Spots of News out, the same time as Jan was decorating the dining room (under my supervision of course) and a decorator was doing the outside of our house. Not a good working atmosphere conducive to typing up this kind of magazine I can tell you. Nevertheless, all seemed to be going well because eventually we got it all typed up into the computer. But just as we started to print the lot out, the bloody printer packed in - and we only had two days to get the magazine out.

To cut a long story short, the printer had to go away twice to be mended and the bill came to £125. On top of that we had to hire another printer to do the labels (a matrix printer, because no way could we do 900 subscriber labels

by hand), and another typewriter to cut the stencils manually. This meant of course retyping everything we had put into the computer, again. Jan did most of the typing because by this time I couldn't really face it. Where she gets her drive from I really don't know. As it was the typewriter didn't cut the stencils very well anyway. I can see now what Richard Morris means about Roneo contact sheets not being much use to him - not all daisywheels will cut stencils; even if they have a stencil-cutting position as this one (an Olympia ESW 101) had. I guess, all in all, you could say I've been lucky with my choice of the ESW 103, but at the moment it sure as hell doesn't feel like it.

The next issue of Dib will have a longer deadline! The main reason is that many of you have asked about double deadlines to cover holidays (a few of you have mentioned things might be difficult as you're flitting all over the place). Also, Della (our Dalmatian bitch) is having the puppies sometime next week, I want to make sure I'm not printing up issue 41 while the puppies are here. Mind you, if some players still want their games adjudicated, by all means say so. Get your orders in early, and if I get a complete set in a reasonable time (i.e. in about 4 weeks) I'll send out a single printed sheet to all players concerned. Printing is easy, it's the duplicating because the duplicator is beside the whelping box that's the problem. Ah, such is life.... I suppose I could well do with a Summer break from doing the zine myself anyway.

A couple of new zines have recently come my way asking for plugs and trades - and very nice-looking zines they were indeed. Quartz was such a one, edited by Geoff Kemp. Now on issue 6, A4 litho (or very good photocopy) with plenty of good artwork and a literate style. Quartz is a (an?) SF-based zine and, as Geoff says, is trying hard to break into the gaming hobby, much to the disgust of his SF peers, by running Diplomacy (50p), Sopwith (50p), Formula One (50p), Scrabble (Free), Chess (Free), and Judge Dredd (also free) - and from what I've seen of Q already, it'll make a successful and damn good job of it. Recommended. Geoff Kemp, 23 Raygill, Wilnecote, Tamworth, Staffs, B77 4JY.

After a disastrous start issue 2 of The Guilder was much better this time. TG has co-editors William Whyte and Damian Maddalena writing for it, and is financed by The Modeller's Nook shop. This being the case they manage to have it printed up by Martin Le Fevre whilst charging only 30p an issue. William tells me his print run is 200, and his backer, TMN, hope to make some profit out of it. I didn't have the heart to tell him how much he might actually lose on this type of venture - but I guess he must be getting some idea by now. Still, he hopes to follow the example of The Acolyte by having the mag. sold over the counter. At the moment they're looking for other shops to take it on so if anyone has any ideas... I wish both Damian and William well, but can't help feeling that their hope of making a profit in this way might be doomed to failure. They'll be competing in the hobby with other, much more professional-looking magazines in the same field.

Two such magazines, both at issue 1, are Ground Zero and Morrigan. A5 booklet form, litho produced, centre stapled, these are the best looking zines I've seen in a while. Oh I know we've had A5 litho booklets before - Dolchstoss, Psychopath etc - but these seem different. Maybe it's because of the SF/Fantasy content, but more than that I think it's the artwork. More and more SF zines seem to be breaking into the hobby lately, introducing lots of lavish artwork, far more than the ordinary games zine would use. In some cases it looks good, as in the case of Morrigan, in others it can sometimes be a trifle overdone. In GZ for instance there was a couple of unnecessary 'pics' and letraset smack in the middle of the lettercolumn, making some of the letters (one, a very interesting letter on martial arts) very difficult to read. Also there was the tendency to cram writing in sideways, and slot in little pieces of handwriting (reduced to a point where it couldn't be read anyway). All in all though both magazines are superb.

(Incidentally, while I'm on this subject of artwork, the last Psychopath has adopted this latest trend to great effect. I wonder if in future this will be the way of things - are mimeo zines on the way out? There's still quite a few of

us who would hate to hand our printing over to someone else.)

Ground Zero is edited by Neil Hopkins, who's 18 years old, and will be going to Sheffield University in October (I hope this won't have any adverse effect on such an excellent start as some moves to University do). Mind you, Neil can be forgiven some holdups I suppose, any man discerning enough to like Hill Street Blues can't be all bad can he? Anyway GZ is 20 pages long and has game openings for Sopwith, a very interesting Sopwith-like variant called Asteroid Dogfight (using asteroids instead of clouds, and much more rules), Dune, Aces of Aces, Murder of the Orient Express, and of course Diplomacy. I can't see prices, or cost of the zine anywhere, but highly recommend you write off to see a copy and ask to see the Asteroid Dogfight rules.

Neil Hopkins, 8 Highfield Avenue, Harpenden, Herts, AL5 5UA.

Morrigan - this zine has a regular production team working for it, consisting of: Paul Archer, Pete Best, Alan Kennedy, Stephen Lewis, Philip Murphy, and John Scott. Philip Murphy did the editorial this issue and is the main editor, but the idea seems to be if one of the team doesn't feel up to doing something, another can take over. This way of producing a zine appears rather cumbersome to me, but there's no denying it, the final result of issue 1 was excellent. Some very interesting articles on Irish/Celtic legends (little difficult to read because of the script typing, but beautifully laid out nevertheless with scrollwork and dragon edgings), an article on Dragons, and a translation (from the Latin, naturally) of Necronomicon (?). As for game openings... anything the readers want, but, at the moment proposes Title Bout, Diplomacy, Diplomacy variants, 1829, Kingmaker; War of the Roses, Formula 1, Speed Circuit, Judge Dread, Catsclaw Island, etc, and bloody etc. Not sure what the zine costs (the first issue was free) but all games will cost £1 gamefee with £1 refundable deposit, though some simpler games will be 50p. How can us single editors hope to compete with this sort of games selection?! Subscription and trade inquiries to Stephen Lewis, 8 Norwood Avenue, Belfast, BT4 2EE, Northern Ireland. Tel. (0232) 651921.

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ZINE POLL GAME

Guess the first five placings in this year's Zine Poll in the correct order (if possible). Collected prize (now standing at 75p) goes to the closest guess. Only four of us so far, but if you fancy your chances, send in a guess next time. I'll keep excepting guesses up until the Poll deadline. Gamefee 25p.

- TOM TWEEDY: Mad Policy, Greatest Hits, Dolchstoss, Acolyte, Hopscotch.
- GEORGE NORTH: Hopscotch, Astradyne, RapsCALLION, Dib Dib Dib, Greatest Hits.
- NICHOLAS WHYTE: Acolyte, Dolchstoss, Mad Policy, RapsCALLION, Dib Dib Dib.
- SIMON CRADDOCK: Greatest Hits, Mad Policy, Acolyte, NMR!, Dolchstoss.

((Dib beating Greatest Hits?! C'mon, George...! I can't help feeling you've thrown 25p away on this guess.... but it's in now so it'll have to stand. And you, Nicholas, you don't think GH will be in the top five at all? He has won it the last 3 years you know.))

Zine Poll '84 Deadline: 19th July 1984. Send Poll votes to Richard Walkerdine, 144 Stoughton Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 6PG.

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SOPWITH:

Is there anyone out there willing to GM a Sopwith game? If so, please let me know before the next deadline as I would like to start another game but with the proviso that I don't have to GM it.

DRINKER'S FAULT FINDING CHART
from Martin Ives

<u>SYMPTOM</u>	<u>FAULT</u>	<u>ACTION TO BE TAKEN</u>
Drinking fail to give satisfaction and taste, shirt front wet.	Mouth not open while drinking or glass being applied to wrong part of the face.	Buy another pint, and practice in front of mirror. Drink as is necessary until drinking technique is perfect.
Drinking fails to give satisfaction and taste beer unusually pale and clear.	Glass empty.	Find someone who will buy you another pint.
Feet cold and wet.	Glass being held at incorrect angle.	Turn glass the other way up so that open end is pointing towards the ceiling.
Feet warm and wet.	Incorrect bladder control.	Go and stand next to the nearest dog - after a while complain to the owner about its lack of house training. Demand a pint as compensation.
Bar blurred.	You are looking through the bottom of your empty glass.	Find someone who will buy you another pint.
Bar swaying.	Air turbulence is unusually high - may be due to darts match in progress.	Insert broom handle down back of jacket.
Bar moving.	You are being carried out.	Find out if you're being taken to another pub - if not, complain loudly that you are being highjacked by the Salvation Army.
You notice that the wall opposite is covered with ceiling tiles, and has a fluorescent light strip across it.	You have fallen over backwards.	If your glass is still full, and no-one is standing on your drinking arm stay put. If not get someone to help you up and lash yourself to the bar.
Everything has gone dim, you have a mouthful of dog-ends and broken teeth.	You have fallen over forwards.	See above.
Everything has gone dark.	The pub is closing.	Panic.
You have woken up to find your bed hard cold and wet. You cannot see your bedroom walls or ceiling.	You have spent the night in the gutter.	Check your watch to see if it's opening time - if not treat yourself to a lay-in.

SOPWITH STATS 6

These are the latest Sopwith stats from Richard Morris, 1 Highland Ville, Lightcliffe, Halifax, HX3 8AG - all based on adjudications received by him up to 11th May 1984. Anyone wanting to see the full set of stats, it will cost you 5p + postage. If, like one player, John Bycroft, you gained enough points to become an Ace, but only after the stats deadline, then I'm sorry. All I can advise is, stick in there and hope the next set of stats comes out quick. It's a bit harsh on some players I know, but what other choice does Richard have? When he took the stats job on, he didn't know he would get bogged down producing his own zine. (Why do you think I gave them up, Richard?)

First, the Aces List....

ACES HIGH

Tom Tweedy	104	So, this is it, once again I'm at the top where I so
Richard Morris	82	rightly belong. But there isn't enough of us - the only
Brian Moore	70	new ace since last time is Nick Hoyle. I'm beginning to
Nicholas Clifton	68	wonder, is the 40 point criteria a bit hard to reach?
Dave Tant	66	Richard Morris thinks not; as he's seriously considering
Sandy Peters	62	raising the Ace limit to 50 or 60 in the 8th set of
Frank Dunn	49	stats (due about April 1985). If you object, then let
Rob Chapman	48	him know. I wonder what will happen to the bottom 3 that
Nick Hoyle	41	are already Aces - Richard?

SOPWITH RECORDS

MOST POINTS IN ONE GAME:	55	Tom Tweedy	DDD REDWING
	50	Richard Morris	DDD RAVEN
	48	Brian Moore	DDD PELICAN (incomplete)
MOST POINTS NOT WINNING:	22	Brian Moore	HOPSCOTCH GOTHA
	21	Sandy Peters	DDD MUDLARK
	21	Sandy Peters	HOPSCOTCH RICHTHOFEN
	15	Rob Chapman	DDD RAVEN
WORST PERFORMANCE:	-5 (Turn 3, Move 2)	Mike Allaway	LOKASENNA AVRO 504
	-5 (Turn 4, Move 2)	Peter Cowling	DDD PELICAN
	-5 (Turn 4, Move 2)	Robert Lozynskyj	DDD REDWING
	-5 (Turn 4, Move 3)	Martin Allen	DDD KINGFISHER
	-5 (Turn 4, Move 3)	Martin Mills	HTL BLUEBOTTLE
WORST ACE PERFORMANCE:	-5 (Turn 6, Move 1)	Brian Moore	THING ON THE MAT 9
WORST WINNING PERFORMANCE:	8	Keith Loveys	DDD MUDLARK
	9	Len George	HOPSCOTCH RICHTHOFEN
MOST WINS:	2	Frank Dunn	
	2	Tom Tweedy	
MOST KILLS IN ONE GAME:	3	Richard Morris	DDD RAVEN
	3	Sandy Peters	HOPSCOTCH RICHTHOFEN
	3	Brian Moore	DDD PELICAN
QUICKEST WIN:	Turn 10, Move 3	Len George	HOPSCOTCH RICHTHOFEN
SLOWEST WIN:	Turn 24, Move 1	Dave Tant	DDD KESTREL
	Turn 23, Move 3	Ian Tillson	DDD KINGISHER

SOPWITH RATINGS LIST

Pos	Name	Rating	Gms	Pts	Best	Pos	Name	Rating	Gms	Pts	Best
1.	Ian Tillson	33	1	33	33		Brian Dolton	2	1	2	2
2.	Richard Morris	29	2	58	50		John Field	2	2	4	6

SOPWITH RATINGS LIST cont.

Pos	Name	Rating	Gms	Pts	Best	Pos	Name	Rating	Gms	Pts	Best
3.	Ray Miller	27	1	27	27		Dave Shelley	2	1	2	2
4.	Brian Douglas	26	1	26	26	41.	Keith Loveys	1.5	4	6	8
5.	Frank Dunn	24.5	2	49	26	42.	Alec Winton	1.33	3	4	7
6.	Tom Tweedy	24	4	96	55	43.	Mick Antrobus	1	4	4	10
7.	Ivo Steyn	21	1	21	21		Paul Cowling	1	1	1	1
8.	Nick Hoyle	14	1	14	14		Karl Piper	1	1	1	1
9.	Dave Tant	13.33	3	40	26	46.	Martin Mills	0.16	6	1	8
10.	Sandy Peters	12.4	5	62	21	47.	Colin Bruce	0	1	0	0
11.	Mike Grant	12	1	12	12		David Huson	0	1	0	0
	Rob Lee	12	1	12	12		Lynn Jones	0	1	0	0
	Derek Povey	12	1	12	12		Chris Sandow	0	1	0	0
	Iain Singer	12	2	24	16	51.	Jaap Jacobs	-0.5	2	-1	0
15.	Steve Froud	11	1	11	11	52.	Richard Bass	-1	1	-1	-1
16.	Alan Sharples	10	1	10	10		John Dalley	-1	1	-1	-1
	Larry Trask	10	2	20	13		Ian Ferguson	-1	1	-1	-1
18.	Len George	9	1	9	9		Nigel Hawthorn	-1	1	-1	-1
	Tim Sharrock	9	1	9	9		John Lee	-1	1	-1	-1
20.	Brian Moore	8.5	2	17	22		Matt Quartermn	-1	1	-1	-1
	Alan Parr	8.5	2	17	16		Keith Shapley	-1	1	-1	-1
22.	Rob Chapman	7.5	2	15	13	59.	Peter Cowling	-1.5	2	-3	2
23.	Ray Harper	7	1	7	7	60.	Michael Woods	-2	1	-2	-2
	John Jones	7	1	7	7	61.	David White	-2.33	3	-7	3
	George North	7	3	21	15	62.	Steve Howe	-2.5	2	-5	0
	Paul Simpkins	7	1	7	7	63.	Gary McNeil	-3	1	-3	-3
27.	Clive Booth	6	1	6	6	64.	Richard Lewis	-4	1	-4	-4
	Keith Harvey	6	1	6	6	65.	Mike Benyon	-5	1	-5	-5
	Paul Tucker	6	1	6	6		Glen Bird	-5	1	-5	-5
30.	Chris Bullock	5	1	5	5		Peter Davies	-5	1	-5	-5
31.	Nicholas Clifton	4	1	4	4		Eddie Griffiths	-5	1	-5	-5
	Derek Crumpton	4	1	4	4		Rick Holman	-5	1	-5	-5
	John Miller	4	1	4	4		John Lambert	-5	1	-5	-5
34.	Peter Rusling	3	1	3	3		Rob Lozynskyj	-5	1	-5	-5
35.	Martin Allen	2.5	2	5	10		John McLaughlin	-5	1	-5	-5
36.	Mike Allaway	2	2	4	9		Lee McNeil	-5	1	-5	-5
	Paul Brine	2	1	2	2		Nick Marshall	-5	2	-10	-5

I think this is enough. Although Sopwith seems to be more popular than it used to be when I did these stats, the list doesn't appear to be any bigger. But then Richard doesn't include players in games unfinished... and there's quite a few of those. This doesn't go down well with my son, Stuart though; he wants to beat his dear ol' dad's score. I don't know about that, but what the hell is Tillson doing at the top, Morris?!

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CENTRAL GAMESTART SERVICE

Zines That Have Received Gamestarts:- (Since last issue) The Question Mark (19th May '84), Psychopath (15th June '84).

List Of Zines Awaiting Regular Starts:-

Sodder (Bill Wright); Rapsallion, Action Replay (Andy Hain), Gazfinc, Quartz (Geoff Kemp), Newspeak (Lee Paddon).

I still haven't heard anything from Simon Billeness (if he's the one that's doing it) about HDF money for Diplomacy box flyers. Is none needed all of a sudden. I have the CGS money, and still haven't collected from other official sources.

JOTTO Turn 1-3

I choose six words from the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary, each six letters long. Each month you send in one word and I then score each letter against each of my six words. For instance, if you submitted DETOUR and the six secret words were: RESORT, BASKET, GENTLE, PRIEST, MORTAR, BOTTLE the scores would be: 4, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3 respectively. Obvious aim is to find all six words.

When you think you know all six words you may take a guess at them (you must guess all six) - but you must get ALL six right! Get one wrong and you're out. Anagrams of the secret words are accepted. And that's all there is to it... Anyone wanting to start next time should send in 4 guesses to catch up.

|                  |                                           |                 |                                               |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| James Steel:     | 1st: 131313<br>2nd: 222030<br>3rd: 213121 | Richard Sharp:  | 1st: 313111<br>2nd: 120311<br>3rd: 121112     |
| James Cowie:     | 1st: 231230<br>2nd: 101220<br>3rd: 313321 | George North:   | 1st: 311314<br>2nd: 222011<br>3rd: 121220     |
| Ulf Jiretörn:    | 1st: 222222<br>2nd: 111312<br>3rd: 232030 | Brian Moore:    | 1st: 141100<br>2nd: 120310<br>3rd: 122103     |
| Larry Trask:     | 1st: 121123<br>2nd: 221210<br>3rd: 112221 | Richard Morris: | 1st: 121230<br>2nd: 022102<br>3rd: 321122     |
| Richard Lampard: | 1st: 342211<br>2nd: 322132<br>3rd: 240121 | Tim Collieu:    | 1st: 513322 (1)<br>2nd: 222212<br>3rd: 432222 |
| Nicholas Whyte:  | 1st: 222103<br>2nd: 231312<br>3rd: 221110 |                 |                                               |

Not a bad turnout at all. Looks to be a good start for Tim who must guess what one word is from his score - only another five to go, Tim. Will the others start to panic? It has been known before. George, I can't tell you if I use double letters or not. My God, I can't make it too easy; I am giving away 3 free issues you know! Anyway, for the benefit of my couple of trades I've decided to award a £1 prize if they win (unlikely as that may be). Of course this means I can still keep stuffing Dib through Richard Sharp's letterbox if he wins. That'll teach him to offer to cancel trades for 3 issues to earn his £1 and daring to call me cheapskate... ME!

QUOTE OF THE MONTH comes from Mike Dean in the latest Psychopath (bait enough to catch half a dozen Trasks, I think):-

"The British are notoriously bad at learning foreign languages, but I can accept that the Americans are worse - after all, they can't even speak their own properly!" ((Larry?))